APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/944,721	08/31/2001	Dennis A. Quan JR.	POU920010121US1	1719

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EXAMINER
CHUONG, TRUC T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2179	

DATE MAILED: 06/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _31 March 2001_.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
   closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-23_ is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-23_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
      application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _08/31/01_.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to Amendment, filed 03/31/05.

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. In the Amendment, claims 1, 3, 8, 11, and 13

are amended, and claims 18-23 are new claims. This action is made non-final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hobbs (U.S.

Patent No. 6,523,022 B1).

As to claim 1, Hobbs teaches a method for presenting zero or more User Interface (UI)

objects as pad of a UI on an information processing system, the method comprising:

associating an associative array (associative array, e.g., col. 8 lines 40-45) with one or

more entries to each of a plurality of UI objects presentable as part of a UI (window display, e.g.,

col. 8 lines 48-50);

presenting at least one UI object based on a state of at least one global context flag for the

UI (argument acts as a key, e.g., col. 8 lines 40-43, and col. 17 line 62-col. 18 line 21);

receiving at least one of a response from an end-user to the presentation of the at least

one UI object and an event-based trigger (based on the key with a plurality of optimum values to

create the display window/object, e.g., col. 8 lines 43-60);

altering the state of the global context flag label based on the response from the end-user

(the user can select the menu choice causes the application that is executed to match with the

keys or global context flags, e.g., col. 8 lines 50-55);

performing a Boolean comparison between the global context flag and one or more of the

entries in the associative array for each of the UI objects (Boolean comparison to do the

judgment in the display processes, e.g., col. 11 lines 55-67); and

presenting zero or more of the plurality of UI objects as part of the UI to the end-user

based upon a result of the Boolean comparison (the argument that acts as a key or the key can be

used to create a pop-up or floating window display for viewing by the user, e.g., col. 17 line 62-

col. 18 line 48).

As to claim 2, Hobbs teaches the method wherein the step of presenting to an end-user

the at least one UI object further comprising at least one of the following:

presenting a visual image (graphic images, e.g., col. 25 line 1);

creating a vibration;

playing a sound;

emitting a scent; and

emitting a taste.

As to claim 3, Hobbs teaches the method wherein the step of associating an associative

array with one or more entries to each of a plurality of UI objects that may be presented as part

of a UI includes associating an associative array with zero or more entries to each of a plurality

of UI objects that may be presented as part of the UI by retrieving the associative array from a

file when an application using the UI is loading (e.g., col. 17 line 62-col. 18 line 48).

As to claim 4, Hobbs teaches the method wherein the global context flags are changed

after the application using the UI receives any input from:

an end-user comprising an input from a group of input devices consisting of a keyboard,

mouse, pointing device, digitizing pen, light pen, track ball, touch screen (e.g., col. 12 lines 43-

55, and fig. 1), motion detector, chemical sensor, sound sensor, and eye movement sensor.

As to claim 5, Hobbs teaches the method wherein the global context flags are changed

after the application using the UI receives an event-based trigger from one or the following

events:

a time event comprising an input from a time of day or elapsed time (video and audio

media, e.g., col. 11 lines 17-25); and

an information processing system event comprising a file status, a printing status (The

information template can be a document specifically prepared for publication on the World Wide

Web; a newsletter; white paper; or other document which has been printed, but converted into

HTML, e.g., col. 11 lines 35-39), a modem status or a power supply status.

As to claim 6, Hobbs teaches the method wherein the step of performing a Boolean

operation is selected from the group of Boolean operations consisting of "AND", "OR" and

"XOR" (Boolean comparison to do the judgment in the display processes, e.g., col. 11 lines 55-

67).

As to claim 7, Hobbs teaches the method wherein the step of associating one or more attributes to each of a plurality of UI objects from a table so that any changes in the table can be made without recompiling and/or re-linking an application using the UI (the key can be used to create a pop-up or floating window display for viewing by the user, and based on the key with a plurality of optimum values to create the display window/object, e.g., col. 8 lines 43-60, and col. 17 line 62-col. 18 line 48).

As to claims 8-10, they are the equivalent system claims of method claims 1, 4, and 2 respectively and are rejected under a similar rationale.

As to claims 11-17, they are the equivalent program product claims of method claims 1-7 respectively and are rejected under a similar rationale.

As to claim 18, Hobbs teaches a method for presenting User Interface (UI) objects as pad of a UI on an information processing system, the method comprising:

creating a first associative array for controlling a property of at least one UI object in a UI (a first associative array located at a computer application, e.g., col. 11 lines 54-55);

performing a Boolean comparison between:

at least one global context flag in the first associative array (argument acts as a key, e.g., col. 8 lines 40-43, and col. 17 line 62-col. 18 line 21); and

at least one entry in a second associative array of at least one UI object

graphical selections associated with the at least one UI object (a second associative array located at the Servers, e.g., col. 11 line 55-col. 12 line 14); and

presenting updates to the UI objects as past of the UI to an end-user in response to the

Boolean comparison (using different keys to create different pop-up or floating window display

for viewing by the user, e.g., col. 17 line 62-col. 18 line 48),

wherein the first associative array and the second associative array are indexed by a string

(associative array can contain strings, characters, ids, keys, or addresses, etc.).

As to claim 19, Hobbs teaches the method further comprising:

receiving at least one of:

a response from the end-user to the updates to the UI objects (using different keys to

create different pop-up or floating window display for viewing by the user, e.g., col. 17 line 62-

col. 18 line 48), and an event-based trigger.

As to claim 20, Hobbs teaches the method further comprising:

changing a state of the global context flag based on the response received from the end-

user (the user can select the choices from the menu to execute some applications options, e.g.,

col. 8 lines 49-63).

As to claims 21-23, they are the equivalent method claims of claims 4-6 respectively and

are rejected under a similar rationale.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view

of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

        Sherlock et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0093527 A1) teach associative array, flags,

Boolean comparison, tables, and applications (pages. 2-25, 72-75, and figs. 1-32).
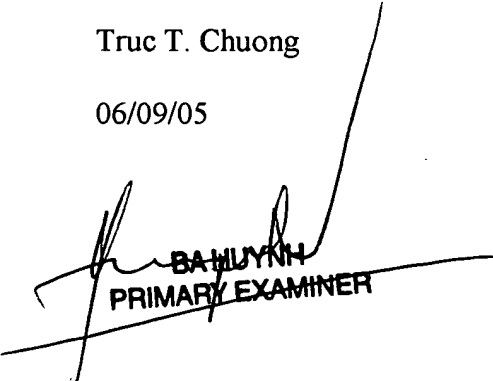
5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Truc T Chuong whose telephone number is 571-272-4134. The

examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and alternate Fridays 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

        Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Truc T. Chuong

06/09/05

BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER